

**FACT SHEET**  
**Fall-related Deaths and Injuries**  
**Connecticut Residents, 2000-2004**

Falls are the leading cause of injury-related death for Connecticut residents aged 65 years and older.

Over 80% of all fall-related deaths occurred among Connecticut residents aged 65 years and older.

Persons 65 years and older had a fall death rate (31.4/100,000 population) that is approximately 6 times that of Connecticut residents overall (5.3/100,000).

Falls were responsible for approximately 50% of injury related-hospitalizations among Connecticut residents of all ages.

- 68% of the fall-related hospitalizations are among persons aged 65 and older.
- 28,816 fall-related hospitalizations among Connecticut residents aged 65 and older for the 5-year period 2000-2004.

Fall-related hospital charges for Connecticut residents aged 65 and older were approximately \$100 million per year for the five-year period 2000 to 2004.

Medicare covered the costs for two-thirds (67%) of fall hospitalizations.

Over half (53%) of patients hospitalized for falls were discharged to a skilled nursing facility.

Falls were responsible for 53% of all injury-related emergency department visits for Connecticut residents aged 65 year and older.

- 85,663 fall-related emergency department visits by Connecticut residents aged 65 and older between 2000 and 2004.

Falls were the leading cause of Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) related deaths, hospitalizations, and emergency department visits for Connecticut residents. For persons 65 years and older falls were responsible for:

- 51% of TBI-related deaths
- 74% of TBI inpatient hospitalizations
- 85% of TBI emergency department visits

**Data Sources:**

Mortality: CT Dept Public Health, Vital Records, 2002-2004

Inpatient Hospitalization: CT Office of Health Care Access, 2000-2004

Emergency Department: CT Hospital Association, 2000-2004

CT Department of Public Health

Injury Prevention Program

<http://www.ct.gov/dph/cwp/view.asp?a=3137&q=400094>